

DOC NO. 1339-A (9)

Message from the Right Honourable Winston Churchill, Acting Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to His Excellency Mr. Yosuke Matsuoka, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, of which a copy was handed unofficially to Mr. Matsuoka by His Majesty's Ambassador at Moscow on April 12th, 1941.

(Note. - It had originally been intended that this letter should be delivered to Mr. Matsuoka by Mr. Shigemitsu who had expected to meet the Japanese Foreign Minister during his stay in Europe).

Your Excellency,

I take advantage of the facilities with which we have provided your Ambassador to send you a friendly message of sincerity and goodwill. I venture to suggest a few questions which, it seems to me, deserve the attention of the Imperial Japanese Government and people:

(1) Will the Germans, without command of the sea or command of the British daylight air, be able to invade and conquer Great Britain in the spring, summer or autumn of 1941? Will the Germans try to do so? Would it not be in the interests of Japan to wait until these questions have answered themselves?

(2) Will the German attack on British shipping be strong

enough to prevent American aid from reaching British shores with Great Britain and the United States of America transforming their whole industry to war purposes?

(3) Did Japan's accession to the triple pact make it more likely or less likely that the United States would come into the present war?

(4) If the United States entered the war at the side of Great Britain and Japan ranged herself with the Axis Powers, would not the naval superiority of the two English-speaking nations enable them to deal with Japan while disposing of the Axis Powers in Europe?

(5) Is Italy a strength or a burden to Germany? Is the Italian fleet as good at sea as on paper? Is it as good on paper as it used to be?

(6) Will the British Air Force be stronger than the German Air Force before the end of 1941 and far stronger before the end of 1942?

(7) Will the many countries which are being held down by the German army and Gestapo learn to like the Germans more or will they like them less as the years pass by?

(8) Is it true that the production of steel in the United States of America during 1941 will be 75 million tons and in Great Britain about 12-1/2 million tons, making a total of nearly 90 million tons? If Germany should happen to be defeated as she was last time would not the 7 million tons of steel production of Japan be inadequate for a single-handed war?

From the answers to these questions may spring the avoidance by Japan of a serious catastrophe and a marked improvement in the relations between Japan and Great Britain, the great sea Power of the West.

I remain, with great truth and respect,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

(Sd) WINSTON S. CHURCHILL

C E R T I F I C A T E

W.D.C. No. _____

I.P.S. No. 1339A (9)

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI Keizo, hereby certify
that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the
following capacity: Chief of the Archives Section Japanese Foreign
Office

and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto
attached consisting of 3 pages, dated 12 April, 1941, and
described as follows: _____

Letter from Churchill to Foreign Minister MATSUOKA handed to
MATSUOKA at Moscow on 12 April 1941.

I further certify that the attached record and document is an
official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of
the official archives and files of the following named ministry or
department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or
any other official designation of the regular location of the
document in the archives or files): Foreign Ministry

Signed at Tokyo on this
21st day of Sept., 1946.

/s/ K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness: Nagaharu Odo /s/

SEAL
Chief, Archives Sect
Official Capacity

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Official Procurement

I, Richard H. Larsh, hereby certify that I
am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander
for the Allied Powers, and that the above described document was
obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese
Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this

25 day of September, 1946

Richard H. Larsh /s/
NAME

Witness: T/4 T. Toguchi /s/

Investigation Division I.P.S.
Official Capacity

EXHIBIT NO. 1062 / 339A (9) - 1 ☆

外務大臣代理「ウインストン。チャーチル」閣下
ヨリ日本帝國外務大臣松岡洋右閣下へノ書翰、本
書翰ノ爲シハ一九四一年四月十二日モスコイニ於
テ貴大使ヲ通シ非公式ニ松岡氏ニ渡サレタ。

(註、本書翰ハ最初重光氏ガ日本外務大臣ノ歐洲
滞在中彼ト會見ノ豫定デアツタノデ重光氏ヲ通シ
テ松岡氏ニ渡サレル旨デアツタ。)

閣下、

私ハ貴國大使ノ爲取計ラヒシ便宜ヲ利用シ閣下ニ
誠意ト好意アル友好の手紙ヲ差上ゲマス。

私ハ日本帝國政府及ビ國民ノ歸心ヲ呼ブニ値ヒス
ルト思ハレルニ、三ノ問題ヲ提議致シ度イト存ジ
マス。

(一) 獨逸ハ一九四一年(昭和十六年)ノ春、夏、或
ハ秋ニ於テ北海疆又ハ英國ノ白堊ノ領空權ナク
シテ英國ヲ攻奪シテ征服シ得ルデセウカ、獨逸
ハ是ヲ試ミルデセウカ。是等ノ問題ガ解決スル
迄待ツノガ日本ニトリ有利デハナイデセウカ。

(二) 英國及ビ米國ガ其ノ全工業力ヲ戰爭目的ニ轉換
シタトシテモ米國ノ援助ガ英國艦隊ニ對シテ難
キ程英國ノ海上權ニ對スルニ對シテ其ノ強力
デハナシカ

(三) 三國同盟ヲ日本ノ加入ガ現在對シ米

RETURN TO ROOM 661 COPY

☆

1339A(9)-2

國ノ参戰ヲ容易ニシタデセウカ、或ハ困難ニシ
タデセウカ。

(四) 若シ米國ガ英國ニ味方シテ参戰シ、日本ガ極東
側ニ参加スルト假定シテ、英米兩國ノ優勢ナル
海軍ハ歐洲ニ於テ極東國ヲ處分スルト同時ニ日
本ヲ處分スルコトヲ可能ナラシメナイデセウカ。

(五) 伊太利ハ獨逸ニトツテ力トナルモノデセウカ、
重荷デセウカ、伊太利ノ艦隊ハ机上日程海上ニ
於テモ實際ニ強イデセウカ、伊太利艦隊ハ机上
艦トシテモ曾ツテノ様ニ強力デセウカ。

(六) 一九四一年（昭和十六年）末迄ニ英國ノ空軍ガ
獨逸ノ空軍ヨリ強クナルデセウカ、一九四二年
（昭和十七年）末迄ニ英國空軍ガ獨逸ノ空軍ヨ
リ遙カニ強クナルデセウカ。

(七) 獨逸軍及獨逸「ゲスタポ」ニ依リ抑ヘツケラレ
テ居ル國々ガ年ノ壓迫ト共ニ獨逸ニ悉々好意ヲ
持ツ様ニナルデセウカ、或ハ持タス様ニナルデ
セウカ。

(八) 一九四一年（昭和十六年）ニハ米國ノ鋼鐵ノ生
産高ハ七千五百萬噸ニナリ、英國ニ於テハ約千
二百五十萬噸ニナリ、合計シテ殆ンド九千萬噸
ニナルト云フノハ眞實デセウカ。萬一獨逸ガ以
前ノ如ク敗北スレバ日本ノ鋼鐵生産高ノ七百萬

1339A(9)-3 *

頃ハ日本單獨ノ戦争ノ爲ニハ不充分デナイデセ
ウカ。

是等ノ問題ニ對スル解答ヲ考フルナラベ日本ハ
恐ルベキ災難ヲ避ケテ西方ノ偉大ナル海國英國
ト全々提携ノ契ヲ結ズルデセウ。

櫻 長

ウインストン。S。チャーチル

(署名)

史 侍 下 園

1339A(9)---4 c.c.f.

證 明 書

「ワシントン」文書局 第
國際 檢察 部 第一三三九A (九) 號

典據及ビ公正ニ關スル 證明

余、林 稔ハ余ガ下記ノ資格ニ於テ、即チ外務省文書課長トシテ、日本政府ト公的關係ニ在ルモノナルコト、並ニ該官吏トシテ余ガ茲ニ添附セラレタル、三頁ヨリ成ル、千九百四十一年ノ昭和十六年ノ四月十二日附、下記題名、即チ英外相「チャーチル」氏ヨリ松岡外相宛書翰ノ文書ノ保管ニ任ジ居ルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

余ハ更ニ添附ノ記録及ビ文書ガ日本政府ノ公文書ナルコト、並ニ右ガ下記名稱ノ省又ハ部局ノ公式書類及ビ綴ノ一部ナルコトヲ證明ス。(若シテラハ綴番號又ハ引用、其他公式書類又ハ綴ニ於ケル該文書ノ成規所在ノ公式名稱ヲモ特記スベシ)

千九百四十六年ノ昭和二十一年ノ九月二十一日

東京ニ於テ署名

當該官吏署名欄

右ノ者ノ公的資格

證 人

林 稔

外務省文書課長

尾 戸 長 春

1339A(9)-5 cert.

公式入手ニ關スル證明

余、RICHARD H. LARSH、余が聯合國最高指揮官司令部ニ附屬アルモノナルコト、茲ニ上記署名ノ文書ハ余が公務上、日本政府ノ上記署名官吏ヨリ入手シタルモノナルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

千九百四十六年／昭和二十一年／九月二十五日

東京ニ於テ署名

氏 名 稱

RICHARD H. LARSH

右ノ者ノ公的資格

檢察廳調査部

證 人

F/4 T. TOGUCHI

DOC. NO. 1339-A(10)

April 22, 1941

Your Excellency,

I have just come back from my trip and hasten to acknowledge the receipt of paper, handed to me at Moscow on the evening of the 12th instant by Sir Stafford Cripps with remark that it was a copy in substance of a letter addressed to me dated London, April 2nd 1941, and forwarded to Tokyo.

I wish to express my appreciation for the facilities with which your Government made efforts to provide our Ambassador when he wanted to meet me on the continent. I was keenly disappointed when I learned that he could not come.

Your Excellency may rest assured that the foreign policy of Japan is determined upon and after an unbiased examination of all the facts and a very careful weighing of all the elements of the situation she confronts, always holding steadfastly in view the great racial aim and ambition of finally bringing about on the earth the conditions envisaged in what she calls Hakkoichiu, the Japanese conception of a universal peace under which there would be no conquest, no oppression, no exploitation of any and all peoples. And, once determined, I need hardly tell Your Excellency, it will be carried out with resolution but with

utmost circumspection, taking in every detail of changing circumstances.

I am, believe me,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

Yosuke Matsuoka.

His Excellency

The Right Honorable Winston Churchill

Prime Minister of Great Britain.

C E R T I F I C A T E

W.D.C. No. _____
 I.P.S. No. 1339A(10)

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI Kaoru hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached consisting of 2 pages, dated 12 April, 1941, and described as follows: Telegram from MATSUOKA to CHURCHILL dated 12 April 1941. I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files): Foreign Ministry -----

Signed at Tokyo on this
27 day of Sept., 1946.

/s/ K. Hayashi
 Signature of Official
 SEAL
Chief, Archives Sect
Official Capacity

Witness: /s/ Nagaharu Odo

Statement of Official Procurement

I, Richard H. Larsh, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above described document was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this
25 day of September, 1946

/s/ Richard H. Larsh
 NAME

Witness: /s/ T/4 T. Toguchi

Investigation Division IPS
Official Capacity

4x 1063

1339A(40)-1

★

電送第一三五五三號

昭和十六年四月廿二日起草

昭和十六年四月二十二日午後八時二十分

在 英

松 岡 大 臣 發

重 光 大 使 宛

松岡大臣ノ英首相へ手交ノ英文書ノ件

(略) 第一三九號

閣下

唯今觀察ヨリ歸任、早速本月十二日夕刻「モスコビー」ニ於テ「スタツアフォード・クリツアス」廟ヨリ書翰雜カニ手交サレタル旨御知ラセ申上候
同文書ハ趣旨ニ於テ一九四一年四月二日附倫敦ヨリノ小宮宛書翰ニシテ東京ニ送達セラレタルモノノ復寫ナル旨承ヘリ候
日本大使ノ歐洲大臣ニテ小宮ニ面談セント欲セシ際貴政府ノ吾ガ大使ニ便宜ヲ與ヘント極力努メラレシ御好意ニ對シ厚ク感謝申上候 大使ノ來訪能ハザル事ヲ知リタル時痛ク失望致候
日本ノ外交政策ハ總エズ偉大ナル民族的目的及所謂八紘一字ニ具現セル狀態ヲ地球上ニ終局的ニ具體化スルコトヲ確然企圖シ、凡ユル事實ノ檢討及

1339A(10)-2 ★

日本ノ直面セル事態ノ凡ユル其業ヲ極メテ周到ニ
考慮スル事ニ依リ又然ル後ニ決定サレルモノナル
故御安心被下度、尙右八條一字ハ如何ナル民族ヲ
モ征服セザル、侵略セザル、利用セザル日本ノ字
宙上ノ平和概念ナリ
尙一度決定サレタル以上決然ト、シカモ變章シツ
ツアル事態ニ詳細ニ對應シ極度ノ慎重ヲ以テ、ソ
ノ政策ハ遂行サレルコトヲ敢テ申上グルニ及バザ
ルコトト愚考致候

敬 具

松 岡 洋 右

大英帝國首相

ウインストン・チャーチル 閣下

1339A(10)-3 (cert)

「ワシントン」文書局 第 (10) 號
國際法務部 第二三三九A (10) 號

與據及と公正ニ關スル證明

余、林集ハ余ガ下記ノ資格ニ於テ、即チ外務省文書課長トシテ、日本政府ト公的關係ニ在ルモノナルコト、並ニ該官吏トシテ余ガ茲ニ添附セラレタル、二頁ヨリ成ル、千九百四十一年ノ昭和十六年ノ四月廿二日附、下記題名、即チ松岡大相、「テヤーテル」英首相ヘ手交ノ英文書ノ件ノ文書ノ保管ニ任ジ居ルコトヲ茲ニ證明ス。

余ハ更ニ添附ノ記録及と文書ガ日本政府ノ公文書ナルコト、並ニ右ガ下記名稱ノ省及ハ部局ノ公式書類及と據ノ一部ナルコトヲ證明ス。(若シテハ據若號又ハ引用、其ノ他公式書類又ハ據ニ於ケル該文書ノ成規所在ノ公式名稱ヲモ特記スベシ)

千九百四十一年ノ昭和二十一年ノ九月廿一日

東京ニ於テ署名

當該官吏署名欄 林 集

右ノ者ノ公的資格 外務省文書課長

証 人 尾 戸 長 春

1339(10)-4 (cert.)

公式入手ニ關スル証明

余、RICHARD H. LARSH氏、余が聯合國最高指揮官總司令部ニ關係アルモノナルコト、並ニ上記題名ノ文書ハ余が公認上、日本政府ノ上記署名官吏ヨリ入手シタルモノナルコトヲ茲ニ証明ス。

千九百四十六年ノ西曆二十一年ノ九月二十二日

東京ニ於テ署名

氏 名 堀 RICHARD H. LARSH

右ノ者ノ公的資格 總務局員主部

証 人 F. FOGUCHI